

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 08789 061201Z
ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00
DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-02 ICA-20 EB-08 COME-00
OMB-01 TRSE-00 AID-05 ACDA-12 /097 W
-----083399 061434Z /42

R 061109Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2041
INFO AMCONSUL BOMBAY
AMCONSUL CALCUTTA
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY KABUL
AMCONSUL MADRAS
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

UNCLAS NEW DELHI 8789

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PDIP, IN, IR, PK
SUBJECT: PRESS COVERAGE OF PM DESAI'S STOPOVER IN TEHRAN

1. ALL DELHI PAPERS ON JUNE 6 PROVIDE BRIEF ACCOUNTS
OF PRIME MINISTER DESAI'S JUNE 5 STOPOVER IN TEHRAN
AND HIS MEETING WITH THE SHAH. THE REPORTS ARE LONG
ON THE CEREMONIAL ASPECTS OF THE VISIT AND SHORT ON
SUBSTANCE. DRAWING UPON DISPATCHES FROM UNI AND PTI
(THE TWO INDIAN WIERE SERVICES) AND FROM AP AND REUTERS,
THE DELHI PAPERS REPORT THAT NO AIDES WERE PRESENT
DURING THE 30-MINUTE MEETING BETWEEN THE SHAH AND THE
PM AND THAT NO STATEMENT WAS ISSUED AT THE END OF THE
TALKS. AS AN EXAMPLE OF THE SPECULATIVE NATURE OF THE
ACCOUNTS, UNI REPORTED THAT DEVELOPMENTS IN AFGHANISTAN
"ARE PRESUMED" TO HAVE BEEN DISCUSSED. ACCORDING TO
UNI: "OFFICIALS INDICATED THAT INDIA AND IRAN HAVE
SIMILAR ATTITUDES AND POLICY REGARDING THE
DEVELOPMENTS IN AFGHANISTAN. " THE TEHRAN DISPATCHES ALSO
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REPORT THAT OTHER SUBJECTS WHICH WERE "UNDERSTOOD" TO
HAVE BEEN RAISED BETWEEN THE SHAH AND DESAI WERE BI-
LATERAL ECONOMIC MATTERS, IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
IRANIAN-AIDED SECOND STAGE OF THE RAJASTHAN CANAL
PROJECT, THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A PAPER AND PULP FACTORY,
AND DISARMAMENT. THE DISPATCHES ALSO NOTE THAT UPON
BOARDING HIS PLANE FOR BRUSSELS, THE PM TOLD REPORTERS

THAT THE "VERY CORDIAL AND WARM" TALKS WITH THE SHAH COVERED A GREAT DEAL OF GROUND ON QUESTIONS OF COMMON INTEREST AND CONCERN.

2. THE NEWS ACCOUNTS FROM TEHRAN REPORT THAT WHILE HE WAS OVER-FLYING PAKISTAN, PRIME MINISTER DESAI SENT A MESSAGE OF GREETINGS TO CMLA GEN. ZIA-UL HAQ. ACCORDING TO UNI, DESAI SAID THAT HE PLACED GREAT VALUE ON FRIENDLY AND COOPERATIVE RELATIONS BETWEEN INDIA AND PAKISTAN SINCE BETTER UNDERSTANDING WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO GREATER STABILITY AND PROGRESS IN THE REGION. THE MESSAGE IS REPORTED TO HAVE STATED : " THE IMPROVEMENT IN THE CLIMATE OF OUR RELATIONS HAS BEEN WELCOMED BY OUR PEOPLES AND ACCLAIMED BY THE WORLD. I SINCERELY HOPE THET THE PROCESS WILL GO ON FROM STRENGHT TOSTRENGTH."
BLOOD

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NNN

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